Preserving Passenger Choice & Innovation in Air Travel

Briefing for Office of Management & Budget

May 2013

ARRIVORA

FARELOGIX (FLX) - A UNIQUE PERSPECTIVE



- Farelogix is a technology provider for many of the world's leading airlines.
- Farelogix uses modern technology to provide a more efficient, more transparent, less expensive alternative to the traditional GDS.
- Over the past five years, Sabre has wielded its monopoly power in an attempt to destroy Farelogix and prevent competition in ticket distribution.
 - "Wanted to make sure we are still pushing on the strategy to shut down FLGX [Farelogix]." Internal Sabre email
- As the only surviving technology competitor to GDS distribution technology, Farelogix is able to offer an important perspective regarding the EAPP3 debate.

MANDATING ANCILLARIES PUTS THE INDUSTRY AT RISK



- Language requiring airlines to provide ancillary information to all channels is problematic
 - Even if language does not specify "how" to distribute to all channels
 - Regardless of wording, just the fact that the rule is a mandate will allow the GDSs to impose their preferred method -- ATPCO OC- because of a DOT "stamp of approval"
- ATPCO OC only processes static/filed data
 - Airlines are starting to make more dynamic offers (e.g. LFBU)
- Forcing the airlines to use static technology is unnecessary:
 - Full content agreements already renewed
 - Many airlines already don't do it today LCCs (EasyJet, Ryanair, Alliance, etc.)
 - Will stop innovation & interfere with current development implementation
 - Will interfere with existing contracts

ANY RULE IS ALREADY OBSOLETE



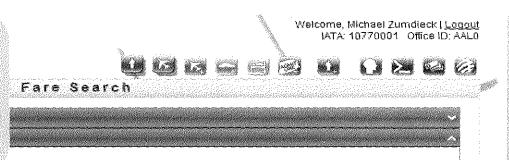
The marketplace is already solving the problem from multiple angles:

- Contractually: Most airlines are providing ancillaries through APIs
 - Delta, United
- Technologically: Dynamic solutions are in production today
 - Priceline and American Airlines/United Airlines
 - Air Canada and Travelport GDS
 - Coming soon American Airlines direct connect via Travelport and Amadeus GDS...and others
- Industry is moving to a different solution
 - IATA NDC Standardized XML making it easier to connect to airlines that want to offer/sell ancillaries

MODERN TRAVEL AGENCY PLATFORM EXAMPLE (1)



Early in the shopping process, agents can easily see which optional services are bundled with a particular airfare, or included as part of a custom-negotiated corporate package (e.g. FLX Business bundle shown in this example).



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MODERN TRAVEL AGENCY PLATFORM EXAMPLE (2)



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Airlines are able to differentiate their products and provide travel agencies with detailed information about optional services, including photo/video.

Optional services are offered in the same "personalized" manner as on airlines websites, ie. based on Who's Asking. In this example, the traveler with Platinum FF status is not charged for bags or internet.

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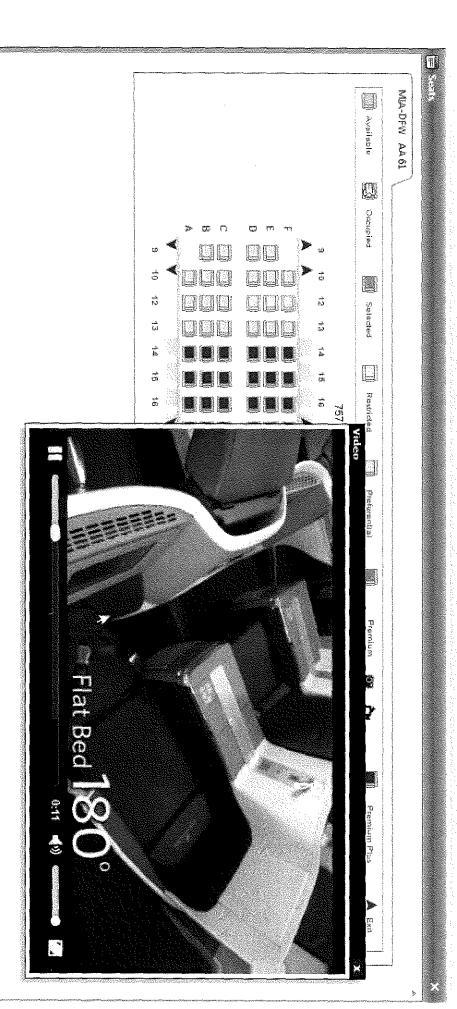
SEAT OPTIONS - PRESENTED BEFORE BOOKING



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BRANDING WITH WIDEO - ALL SEATS ARE NOT THE SAME





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DYNAMIC PRICING EXAMPLE - LFBU



- Load-Factor Based Upgrade
 - If space is available at the time of check-in (up to 24 hrs preflight)
 - Customer receives offer from airline to upgrade
 - Customer determines if the offer has value and accepts or declines



A MANDATE WILL TAKE THE INDUSTRY BACKWARDS



- Request for a "useful format" necessarily refers to ATPCO OC
 - Legacy technology provides static pricing higher probability for inaccurate pricing or pricing that does not apply to specific traveler i.e. frequent flyer
 - Does not support dynamic, media-rich and custom-tailored offers
 - Even if the rule is passed without specifying how information is delivered, ATPCO OC will end up as required due to GDS market power (i.e. DOT says you have to provide me with the information and here is how I want it)
- Advancement of modern selling technology will be at risk
 - Alternatives to OC are already in place today
 - Innovation and free competition will be thwarted for another decade or longer
- Consumer choices, transparency, comparability, and pricing accuracy will be compromised.
 - Static filing eliminates last minute, dynamic offers that airlines may have available
 - May be forced into offering price ranges for product offerings which leads to interpretation and inaccuracies

THE REAL ISSUE



- The real motivation of the rule's proponents is to maintain GDS market power
 - American v. Sabre transcripts reveal real agenda
- Consumer issues are red herrings
 - "Transparency" is improved with modern technology
 - Renewal of full content agreements demonstrates airlines are not "hiding fees"

BIASING — THE REAL DANGER AND DETERRENT TO CONSUMER TRANSPARENCY

- Sabre secretly biased American Airline's flights in over 6,000 markets in order to punish it from adopting new technology.
- Biasing clearly harms unsuspecting consumers.
 - Biasing was done secretly for months, and consumers were unaware consumer's trust was violated!
 - "Want to get a more sophisticated system of biasing that has various bias rolling through the system. I don't want an airline to understand what we're doing."
 - "... [A]re you already removing American Airlines' flights?... In checking schedules from Chicago to LaGuardia I cannot find American Airlines' flights. Are you completely inhibiting us to book on American?"
 - "What are your thoughts if Sabre, not the agency...
 wants to promote the display of a specific carrier and
 not necessarily highlight or communicate to agents or
 suppliers that a display is reserved to show a certain
 carrier at the top?"



SABRE IS ATTEMPTING TO STOP OR DELAY CHANGE

EAPP3 IS THE LATEST METHOD OF ATTACK

- Sabre's activities were intentionally aimed to stop American from "changing the model":
 - "AA remains the one disruptive force in the industry that concerns me... Our initiative needs to target getting as many things as possible to neutralize AA market moves to disrupt the model."
 - "Spent all day trying to figure out how to take American down.



THANK YOU

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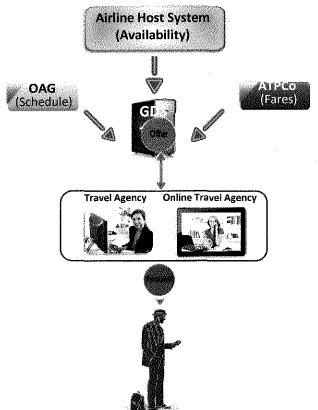
AIR SHOPPING EXPERIENCE: OLD AND NEW

Legacy Model (GDS-Centric)

Generic Selling Model:

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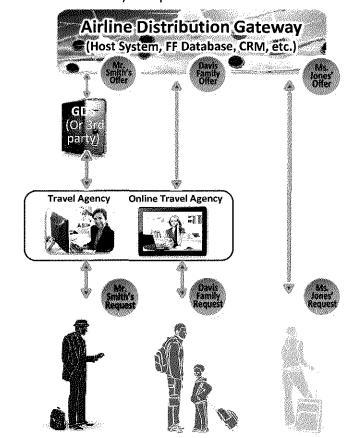
Airline doesn't know who the traveler is until after the sale is made; airline is prevented from delivering its value proposition and competing for a customer's business.



New Model (Consumer-Centric & NDC-Enabled)

Personalized Selling Model

Airline knows who the traveler is and dynamically creates a relevant offer in order to truly compete for the customer.





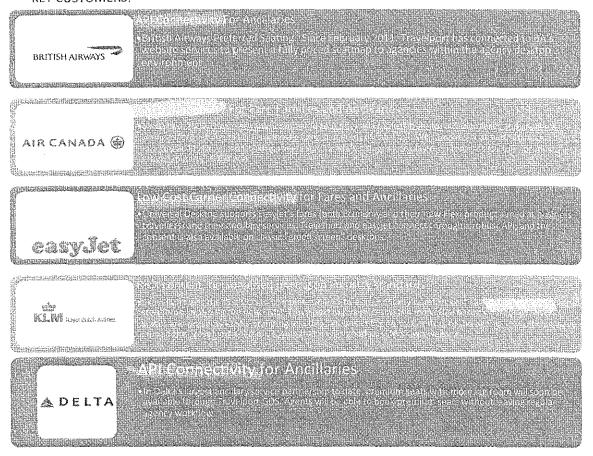
TRAVELPORT and TRAVELPORT MERCHANDIZING SOLUTIONS

August 7, 2012

Starting in 2009, Travelport GDS has maintained and continues to expand on its capability to display and book ancillary fees for airlines though several of Travelport's agency-facing products, including Universal Desktop. Travelport Merchandizing Solutions currently serves seven carriers and continues to encourage airline collaboration to distribute and retail their ancillary services through the agency/GDS channel.

Travelport GDS has successfully integrated ancillary services seamlessly into agency points of sale for many airlines including Air Canada, United, KLM, British Airways, and Qantas. Seven airlines in total have been successfully implemented and offer a range of extra features from paid seats to all ancillary content (Air Canada). These customers choose to participate and deliver ancillaries either through API (internet-based) connections or through industry standards like ATPCO. In April 2012, a Travelport GDS agent made an industry-first live booking for KLM utilizing ATPCO.

KEY CUSTOMERS:



Travelport Ancillary Highlights

AIRLINE	WHAT	ESTABLISHED
Air Canada	Full range (Tango, Tango Plus, Latitude, and Executive Class) using Travelport Agencia (Canada/US)	Jun 10, 2009 "'We are delighted to collaborate with Travelport to bring an enhanced booking tool to our mutual travel agency customers. All of Air Canada's product features, fares and a-la-carte options are now seamlessly and efficiently accessible through Travelport Agencia,' said Graham Wareham, senior director, Distribution / Consumer Direct, Air Canada."
British Airways	ʻpaid seats' (via API)	"Travelport Options Integrator, which is available for connected agents to download free of charge, is the technology behind the new functionality and links directly to BA's pre-paid seating content. The Travelport solution was designed to make shopping, selling and booking optional services through the GDS a straightforward process for travel agents. John Mornement, Head of Selling and Distribution for British Airways, said: 'Since signing our global agreement with Travelport, we have been working together to make our pre-paid seat selection service available on the Travelport GDS. We're delighted to be going live with the Travelport functionality this month.'"
Qantas	ʻpaid seats'	Apr 13, 2011 "Travelport, the business services provider to the global travel industry, today announces that all Galileo, Worldspan and Apollo-connected travel agents worldwide will have full GDS access to Qantas' new Advance Seat Selection product, which comes into effect from today. Under the new arrangement, all Travelport subscribers will be able to book and pay for preferred seats on Qantas flights via their desktop. By booking through the GDS, agents are ensured that their standard workflows are uninterrupted, allowing them to provide better service to their customers. Travelport has also undertaken rigorous testing to ensure that the new booking capability will be integrated into Cross Check Travel, Travelport's bespoke mid/back office solution for the Pacific region, providing a seamless booking workflow from start to finish."
United	'paid seats' (via API)	Aug 3, 2011 "Travelport, the business services provider to the global

		travel industry, today announces it has implemented the ability for Travelport-connected agents in the U.S. to sell United Airlines Economy Plus seating through their standard desktop and workflow processes. This capability provides multiple opportunities for agents to sell the additional space and comfort Economy Plus offers to their travelers while maintaining the value of GDS booking and processing efficiency that agencies have come to expect from Travelport. 'United is pleased to work with Travelport to broaden our distribution of Economy Plus through channels where our customers shop,' said Amos Khim, managing director, Marketing Distribution Strategy, United Airlines."
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Home > Topics > Distrubution

Sabre reached "a new, long-term, full-content agreement" with United Airlines, which calls for the eventual distribution of the carrier's "material" ancillary offerings, including premium-economy seats. As part of the deal, "Sabre and United will co-develop solutions using next-generation technology that will permit United to offer more relevant personalized offers to their loyal customers." The Beat reported an effort already underway for the airline and GDS operator to exchange frequent flyer information to return appropriate price quotes for the sale of Economy Plus seats, which is waived for some elite flyers. Sabre and United also envision "better" promotion of the carrier's products and services "with additional descriptive text and graphics for enhanced on-screen merchandizing within the Sabre Red Workspace and through Sabre Web Services."





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